few months later. The trade associations have attributed this increase to the rise in the price of raw materials.

(b) The Finance Minister in his speech while presenting Central Government's Budget for 1988-89 had stated that the Government will not hesitate to withdraw the concessions, wherever there is evidence of manufacturers taking undue advantage of these concessions.

News-Item captioned "concern over NABARD Plan to cut refinance support"

2450. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:
SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item which appeared in the Financial Express of the 19th July, 1988 under the heading "concern over NABARD plan to cut refinance support" and state what are the facts, how much refinance was made available during the last three years to IRDP, MNAP, and other schemes to support weaker sector; and

(b) whether Government are aware that State Co-operative Banks Federation has complained about the bureaucratic attitude of NABARD and if so, what steps Government propose to take to change the policy of NABARD to help agricultural community and rural development schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that it has reduced the rate of refinance for term loans given by commercial banks with effect from 1st July, 1988. However, the refinance rates for farm mechanisation, forest nursery, wasteland development and non-farm sector activities (outside the IRDP) have not been changed. The reduction in the rate of refinance would *inter-alia* be applicable to IRDP, Minor irrigation where the revised rate of refinance would be 70 per cent as against the earlier rate of 90 per cent.

NABARD has further reported that the rates have been amended keeping in view the availability of resources and demand for refinance. The actual lending by commercial banks for rural development programme is not likely to be affected since the commercial banks would continue to meet their commitments as per the Annual Action Plans (AAPs) for various districts. No reduction has been effected as regards refinance available to RRBs and Co-operative Banks including Land Development Banks.

The quantum of refinance made available to banks under programmes like IRDP, MNAP and to support weaker sections is given below:

(Rs. in crores)

	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
IRDP .	376	379	448
MNAP .	35	38	39

(b) A memorandum was submitted to Government by the National Federation of State Cooperative Banks in 1986 containing various suggestions for improving the cooperative credit system and allied matters. These have been examined in depth by NABARD and appropriate action initiated|taken when considered necessary.

दिल्ली नगर निगम द्वारा स्वच्छता पर किया गया व्यय

2451. **श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय**: क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दिल्ली नगर निगम द्वारा